

Application No. 09/452/976 filed December 2, 1999; and International Application No. PCT/US99/28530 filed December 2, 1999, published as WIPO Publication No. WO 00/33239 on June 8, 2000. Each said patent application is assigned to and commonly owned by Metrologic Instruments, Inc. of Blackwood, New Jersey, and is incorporated herein by reference in its entirety.

On Page 18, amend the eighth and ninth paragraphs as follows:

~~Fig. 11A~~ 11 is a functional block diagram of the data packet receiving and processing circuitry ~~and the acknowledgement signal generating circuitry realized on the printed circuit board~~ in the base unit of the illustrative embodiments;

~~Fig. 11B is a functional block diagram of the data packet transmission circuit employed in the remote base unit of Fig. 11A, embodiment~~, showing the arrangement of a Bluetooth® baseband controller (i.e. Phillips PCF877750 IC) interfaced with the base unit controller, a Bluetooth® RF transceiver module (i.e. Phillips UAA3558 IC) interfaced with the baseband controller, and a ceramic antenna element configured with the RF transceiver module and interfaced with free-space;

On Page 19, amend the fourth paragraph as follows:

Fig. 15 is a state diagram illustrating the various states that the automatically-activated bar code symbol reading system of ~~Figs. 11A1 through 11B~~ Fig. 11 may undergo during the course of its programmed operation;

On Page 79, amend the first paragraph as follows:

As shown in Fig. 11A 11, the base station 42 comprises a number components, namely: a power supply circuit 560; a receiving antenna element 561; a Bluetooth® RF transceiver module 4001 (i.e. BG100 TrueBlue Bluetooth radio module by Phillips Electronics) connected to the antenna element; and a Bluetooth® baseband controller module (i.e. PCF87750 Bluetooth Baseband Controller by Phillips Electronics) arranged with the RF transceiver module 4001, as shown in ~~Fig. 11B~~; a data packet storage buffer 564; a base unit system controller 565; a symbol character data extraction module 569; a data format conversion module 570; and a serial data

transmission circuit 571. In the illustrative embodiment, a programmed microprocessor and associated memory (i.e. ROM and RAM), indicated by reference numeral 573, are used to realize the base unit system controller 565 and each of the above-described data processing modules.